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USIB-M-711  
8 January 197

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

NSA review completed

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Draft Minutes of the 8 January 1976  
Intelligence Board Meeting

1. The attached draft minutes of the 8 January Intelligence Board meeting are submitted herewith for USIB consideration.

USIB ACTION REQUESTED

2. Board members are requested to advise the Secretariat by close of business 20 January 1976 of their approval or other views on the attached minutes.

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Executive Secretary

Attachment

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USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976

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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

Minutes of  
Seven-hundred-eleventh Meeting  
United States Intelligence Board  
DCI Conference Room (7D64)  
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1030 hours, 8 January 1976

Director of Central Intelligence  
Mr. W. E. Colby  
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Edward W. Proctor, acting for Deputy Director of Central Intelligence  
Mr. Harold H. Saunders, Director of Intelligence and Research,  
Department of State  
Lieutenant General Eugene F. Tighe, Jr., USAF, Acting Director,  
Defense Intelligence Agency  
Lieutenant General Lew Allen, Jr., Director, National Security Agency  
Mr. J. Foster Collins, acting for Department of Treasury Representative  
to USIB  
Major General Edward B. Giller, USAF (ret.), Energy Research and  
Development Administration Representative to USIB  
Mr. W. Raymond Wannall, Federal Bureau of Investigation Representative  
to USIB

SERVICE OBSERVERS PRESENT

Brigadier General John A. Smith, USA, Acting Assistant Chief of Staff,  
Intelligence, Department of the Army  
Captain David Sigsworth, USN, acting for Director of Intelligence,  
Department of the Navy  
Major General George J. Keegan, Jr., USAF, Assistant Chief of Staff,  
Intelligence, United States Air Force

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USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976 25X1

In addition to addressing the regular agenda items the following subjects were discussed.

- a. Welcome to Mr. Harold H. Saunders,  
Director of Intelligence and Research,  
Department of State

Mr. Colby, noting this was Mr. Saunders first meeting as the State Member of the Board, welcomed him to the USIB.

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- b. Evaluation of Imagery Satellite Schedule

Mr. Colby said that at a meeting he had held with all the USIB Committee Chairmen, [ ] of COMIREX, suggested that it would be useful to evaluate the ExCom's recently approved imagery satellite schedule from the requirements point of view. It was agreed that COMIREX would prepare such an evaluation for consideration by USIB.

- c. National SIGINT Plan

Mr. Colby reported that at the same Committee Chairmen's meeting it was suggested that it would be useful for the USIB to consider and approve the National SIGINT Plan (NSP). He pointed out that last year the Board had discussed and noted the Plan. Mr. Colby said that approval by the Board would provide a better opportunity to work out major issues with a view toward reaching decisions rather than just providing comments to the Director, National Security Agency.

General Allen observed that a similar proposal was discussed last year and that the conclusion had been that USIB approval was not a good idea. This is due to its complexity and the fact that it is a planning document not a formal submission for a program. USIB approval of the document would create problems with the JCS since they too would feel required to formally approve or disapprove the Plan. General Allen said he was not reluctant to put SIGINT issues before the USIB, but suggested it is preferable for the Board to address overall questions from an all-source point of view, noting that the NSP is just one part of that process. By developing the NSP, General Allen said he had hoped to provide the lead for other collection disciplines, the final result being an all-source plan which USIB could address.

- 2 -

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976

25X1

Mr. Colby said that General Allen's desire to have an all-source plan was a good one and pointed out that actions are underway for an imagery plan and a human resources plan which, together with the NSP, would provide the three major building blocks for an all-source plan.

General Wilson noted that there is a Plans Division within the Intelligence Community Staff. He agreed with General Allen on the need for all-source plan development, and said that the Intelligence Community Staff was working on this problem.

Mr. Colby said that he agreed with General Allen's view on the desirability of having individual plans for each collection discipline flow from a broader all-source plan. General Allen said that the general guidance for the National SIGINT Plan already existed in part through the Perspectives and Objectives developed by the DCI and said that these documents represented enormous progress. He noted, however, that the next step was still required, i. e., the development of an all-source collection plan.

d. Key Intelligence Questions Performance  
Evaluation Summary for Fiscal Year 1975  
(USIB/IRAC-D-22.1/47)

Mr. Colby said that the subject document had just been circulated, commenting that it represented a statistical analysis. He noted that the report raised some interesting questions which he hoped the Board Principals would review in preparation for discussion at the next meeting. He stressed that this was not the final report but represented only a step in the evaluation process; this should be kept in mind during the Board's discussion next week. Mr. Colby said he had asked General Wilson to amplify the statistical analysis of the report with a substantive review of the major questions. At this stage the statistical analysis only posed questions. He hoped the discussion next week would help identify those questions which required further review.

e. Changing Soviet Perceptions of World  
Politics and the USSR's International Role  
(OPR 113, October 1975)

General Keegan called the Board's attention to the subject research study, prepared by the Office of Political Research, CIA, which had recently been circulated with a distribution including rather high levels of the U.S. Government. He said that he believed the Conclusions of the report could have major impact on U.S. policy, e.g. on the SALT

- 3 -

SECRET

25X1

SECRET  
[REDACTED]USIB -M-711  
8 January 1976

25X1

negotiations. General Keegan said that, while he disagreed with the Conclusions, the most important point he would like to make was that judgments such as in this paper were more appropriate for a National Intelligence Estimate.

Mr. Colby agreed that General Keegan had a valid point regarding his suggestion that judgments such as these should be subjected to the national estimative process. The Chairman said that he had added to the circulation of the report because he believed it provided a useful point of view to certain key people around town. Mr. Colby said that this report should be subjected to NIO review to get the reaction of the USIB Principals to determine if an estimate on this subject should be produced.

1. Discussion of Strategic Warning  
Staff Monthly Report  
(MR-10 - 75, 18 December 1975,

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[REDACTED]

General Wilson said he would like to make a few brief comments on the subject report dated 18 December. Two items are of particular interest. The first is the interesting article, entitled USSR: Warning Significance of the "Special Period" and "Threatening Period," which is a summary of a longer information Report published by the Strategic Warning Staff in mid-December. This article should alert our intelligence collectors to strive for a wider understanding of the significance of both the "Special Period" and the "Threatening Period." The second article is the report concerning North Korea, a subject on which Mr. Colby would comment. The Chairman said that the Board had addressed the Korean problem through the report prepared by the CCPC (USIB-D-64.6/60, 1 December 1975, [REDACTED]) The article in the SWS Monthly Report on Korea however raised additional questions. Mr. Colby said he was conscious of the intelligence dilemma posed by the Korean problem. [REDACTED]

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- 4 -  
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USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976 25X1

25X1

As a final note, General Wilson said he would like to thank  
 25X1 [ ] Director of the SWS, for the fine job he has done in  
 directing the SWS under the purview of [ ] Special Assistant  
 25X1 to the DCI for Strategic Warning. The SWS was developed and has prospered under [ ] leadership. [ ] left the SWS 25X1  
 this week to return to CIA's Office of Current Intelligence as Chief of  
 the Soviet/Eastern European Division. At the same time, General Wilson  
 said he wanted to welcome the new Director [ ] a fine and 25X1  
 25X1 experienced CIA officer who had been serving as acting chief of the  
 same division [ ] now heads.

- 5 -

SECRET

25X1

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USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976

25X1

2. Interagency Intelligence Memorandum:  
The Likelihood of the Acquisition of  
Nuclear Weapons by Foreign Terrorist  
Groups for Use Against the US; and  
Review of NIE 4-70: Clandestine  
Introduction of Nuclear Weapons into  
the US  
 (D/DCI/NIO Memorandum for USIB,  
 dated 31 December 1975, [redacted])

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Mr. Carver introduced this item by noting that the subject memorandum addresses only part of a much larger and disturbing intelligence problem for the future. This is the worldwide danger that terrorists may either acquire a nuclear weapon or be able to make a credible claim that they have developed or acquired a nuclear device or weapon. He said the Board should recognize that this Intelligence Memorandum focuses only on part of the problem. Mr. Colby suggested an NIE be prepared on the overall problem of terrorists acquiring nuclear weapons from any source anywhere in the world. General Giller agreed that this subject was most important and noted that Congress may be asking for briefings. General Tighe said that DIA and the three services shared his concern, commenting that the Intelligence Memorandum implies that we are not fully aware of the severity and scope of the terrorist problem. Accordingly, it was agreed that this matter should be addressed in a new NIE, while, at the same time, adding appropriate comments delineating the limited scope of the subject Intelligence Memorandum.

The Board then:

- a. Approved the subject Memorandum as amended.
- b. Concurred in the ERDA Member's suggestion that one copy of the subject Memorandum be released to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy.

- 6 -

SECRET

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USIB-M-711 25X1  
8 January 1976

3. Proposed New DCIDs for the Weapon and Space Systems Intelligence Committee (WSSIC) and the Scientific and Technical Intelligence Committee (STIC)  
(USIB-D-5.1/44, 29 December 1975)

Mr. Colby said that he had been asked not to act on the subject DCIDs at the meeting in view of some remaining problems. General Tighe briefly explained why he believed that certain language in the DCIDs should be amended and suggested postponement of the Board's decision.

It was agreed that this item be rescheduled for USIB consideration at an early date and that Members should forward to General Wilson any proposed changes they may have as soon as possible.

4. Presentation of National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal to Dr. James R. Schlesinger

The USIB was convened in special session at 1130 hours for the purpose of awarding Dr. Schlesinger the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal.

General Wilson opened the ceremony by saying that this special event was in response to USIB action at its 3 November 1975 session. At that meeting the Board unanimously approved the awarding of the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal to Dr. Schlesinger. General Wilson said that the Chairman of USIB would present the award, accompanied by the following citation:

"Dr. James R. Schlesinger is hereby awarded the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of his distinguished achievement in duties of great responsibility within and on behalf of the Intelligence Community of the United States. During his tenure in the Office of Management and Budget, Dr. Schlesinger was responsible for a detailed examination of U. S. foreign intelligence activities which led to a Presidential Directive which markedly strengthened the community aspects of the program. While serving

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SECRET  
USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976

25X1

as Director of Central Intelligence in 1973, he put into effect the basic elements of the Presidential program. As Secretary of Defense, following his service as Director of Central Intelligence, his able leadership and discerning understanding of problem areas resulted in a marked improvement in the foreign intelligence capabilities of the Department of Defense. Dr. Schlesinger's leadership and participation in Intelligence Community activities brought results which were of distinct benefit to the United States and constituted a major contribution to the foreign intelligence mission of the intelligence community."

In his remarks Mr. Colby said he was delighted on this occasion, with the USIB Principals present, to recognize Dr. Schlesinger. He noted that Dr. Schlesinger was among the first to receive this new award and that the presentation was obviously appropriate because of his contributions to intelligence. Mr. Colby recalled that Dr. Schlesinger, through his scholarship, had contributed significantly to defense thinking and analysis before joining the Government. While at OMB, Dr. Schlesinger was instrumental in bringing about significant changes to the Intelligence Community, since his work resulted in the issuing of a Presidential directive on 5 November 1971, which as DCI and Chairman, USIB, Dr. Schlesinger then began to implement. He said that Dr. Schlesinger had left an example which Mr. Colby had tried to follow and was sure would be followed by his successors. Upon becoming Secretary of Defense, Dr. Schlesinger had provided constant support to national intelligence. He recognized the value of independent points of view and assessments by the USIB and the Intelligence Community and had made great contributions to the development of effective centralized intelligence.

In concluding Mr. Colby said that he and the USIB Principals wanted to recognize Dr. Schlesinger's outstanding contributions by this award and thanked him for his support.

At the invitation of Mr. Colby, Dr. Schlesinger said he wished to make a few comments. He said he was grateful to Mr. Colby and the USIB and expressed his appreciation for the unanimous vote for the award. He said that this suggests an aspect of the Intelligence

- 8 -  

SECRET

25X1

SECRET  
[redacted]USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976

25X1

Community which should be kept in mind; specifically that the Intelligence Community needs both diversity and unity. He stressed the value of diversity, for example so that the commanders in the field have their own intelligence capability to preclude sole reliance on receipt of intelligence from one central body. On the other hand, there is also a need for unity, particularly in order to insure the most efficient use of advanced technological systems. He said he had forwarded a memorandum to the President in late 1972 which stressed the need for a strong cohesive intelligence community. This, he said, had become even more important as a result of the several reviews of the Intelligence Community by the Congress and the White House.

Dr. Schlesinger said he believed there is general awareness that the U.S. has come to a turning point regarding the global balance, noting that, from a defense dollar point of view, the trend line showed an increase in the Soviet Union and a decrease in the U.S. The result is a higher risk situation which establishes an even greater requirement for good intelligence. Unfortunately, the effects of the many reviews have impacted on the ability of the Intelligence Community to respond. He cited examples of disclosures and the concerns of those who have assisted us from foreign countries. He said that intelligence was the first line of defense and that, if it is effective, it means we don't have to employ weapons. He stressed the need to proceed with the reorganization of the intelligence community, insuring that it is both operationally effective and operationally sound.

Dr. Schlesinger concluded his remarks by again expressing his appreciation to Mr. Colby and the USIB.

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[redacted]

Adjournment: 1200 hours

Executive Secretary

- 9 -

SECRET

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25X1

USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976

SECRETARY'S NOTES

1. USIB-S-29.28/2, 2 December 1975  
(Limited distribution through special channels)

On 20 December all USIB members telephonically concurred in the SIGINT Committee recommendation that USIB note the basic report and approve the conclusions contained in paragraph 6 of the attachment. The Acting Director, DIA, concurred subject to changes on pages 1 and 13. Revised pages incorporating these changes have been circulated as Memorandum for Holders-1 of USIB-S-29.28/2, 22 December 1975, limited distribution through special channels.

The Office of the Chairman, SIGINT Committee, has been advised of this Board action.

2. USIB-D-64.6/60, 1 December 1975  
(Limited distribution through restricted channels)

All USIB members on 29 December concurred in the CCPC recommendations that the USIB: a) Note the Back-Up Study and Special Annex (circulated by USIB-D-64.6/58, 25 July 1975) and b) Approve the Summary Conclusions and Recommendations.

Revised pages incorporating updated information and correction of a typographical error have been circulated as Memorandum for Holders-1 of USIB-D-64.6/60, 29 December 1975, limited distribution through restricted channels.

The Office of the Acting Chairman, CCPC has been advised of this Board action.

- 10 -

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USIB-M-711  
8 January 1976

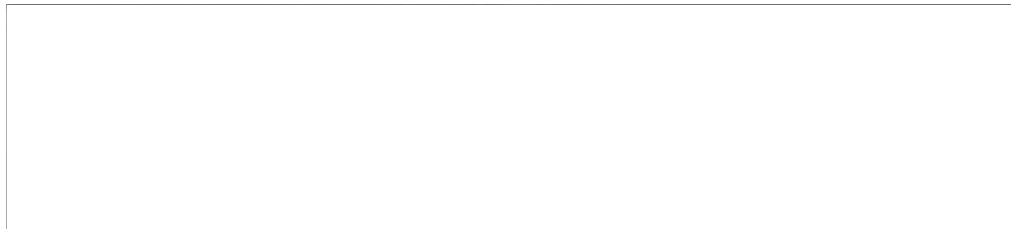
3. Approval of Minutes  
11 December Meeting  
(USIB-M-709)

On 29 December all USIB members telephonically concurred in the subject minutes. The NSA Member concurred subject to a change to paragraph 3 on page 5. A revised page 5, reflecting this change, was circulated in Memorandum for Holders-1 of USIB-M-709, 30 December 1975.

4. USIB-S-29.6/13, 14 April 1975  
(Limited distribution through  
restricted channels)

(A record of Board action on this subject is contained in Memorandum for Holders-1 of USIB-S-29.6/13, 5 January 1976, limited distribution through restricted channels.)

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- 11 -



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